

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /094 W

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R 080636Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5875

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 9460

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, KN, KS

SUBJ: DFA FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO'S COMMENTS ON RECOGNIZING
NORTH KOREA

1. ON HIS ARRIVAL IN SEOUL ON VISIT TO RECEIVE HIS 75TH
HONORARY DEGREE AUG 5, FOREIGN SECRETARY ROMULO IS REPORTED
BY UPI TO HAVE TOLD PRESS AND WELCOMING SOUTH KOREAN
FOREIGN MINISTER THAT QUOTE I DO NOT ENVISAGE IN THE NEAR
FUTURE RECOGNITION OF THE PYONGYANG REGIME. END QUOTE.
PRESS ACCOUNTS ALSO REPORT ROMULO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR
SOUTH KOREA'S FORMULA TO ADMIT BOTH KOREAS SIMULTANEOUSLY
INTO THE UNITED NATIONS.

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2. COMMENT: AT BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR THE PHILIPPINES
HAD GIVEN VERY STRONG INDICATIONS IT WAS MOVING TOWARDS
RECOGNITION OF NORTH KOREA AND SOUTH KOREAN EMBASSY WAS GIVEN
FIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO ATTEMPT TO SEEK REASSURANCES TO CON-
TRARY. ASSUMING THAT REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO GENERAL ROMULO
ARE CORRECT, AND WE BELIEVE THEY ARE BOTH CORRECT AND
DELIBERATE, THE SOUTH KOREANS MUST BE DELIGHTED AT PUBLIC
ASSURANCES GIVEN BY HIM. WE WOULD NOT INTERPRET HIS RE-
MARKS, HOWEVER, AS SUGGESTING GOP HAS GIVEN UP IDEA OF
ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA. IT IS MORE
LIKELY GOP HAS TEMPORARILY SLOWED DOWN ITS ASIAN COMMUNIST
RECOGNITION PACE WHILE IT FOCUSES ON MORE CENTRAL ISSUE
OF RELATIONS WITH PRC. FRIENDLY, WELL PUBLICIZED VISIT
HAS ALSO GIVEN ROMULO OCCASION TO REPEAT OLD THEME OF
ASIAN SOLUTIONS FOR ASIAN PROBLEMS, A TIMELY REMARK VIEW
BOTH KOREA AND PHILIPPINE DIFFICULTIES ON POLITICAL
PRISONERS.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

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